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7304 N.E. ST. JOHNS RD. • P.O. BOX 65369 • VANCOUVER, WA 98665
OFFICE (360) 694-3221 • PDX (360) 224-9942 • FAX (360) 694-3882
Email: Info@omega-industries.com • Web: www.omega-industries.com

May 18, 2011

Chairman Daniel R. Elliott, III
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

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Office of Proceedings

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Public Record

Dear Chairman Elliott:

ex parte 705

I am the president of Omega Industries, Inc., a family-owned company I started in 1994. Omega Industries is a leader in the production of precast concrete railroad crossings. Our innovative design, attention to detail and unmatched customer service has led to partnerships with Class I railroads, regional and short line railroads, rail contractors and port facilities alike. Our product line includes the BNSF / UPRR "Common Standard" Panel, custom turnout and curved panels, ADA pedestrian crossing panels, and heavy-duty crossing panels. Our fabricated steel product line includes, though not limited to: switch point covers, electrical access boxes, spreader bars, sign poles, traffic control bollards, coil-car divider beams and concrete forms.

Serving over 22 states, Omega Industries is the largest Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) crossing supplier in the United States. We own and operate manufacturing facilities in the states of California, Washington, Nebraska, and Texas.

On behalf of my company, I am writing to urge you to keep the common sense economic railroad regulation of today. The success of Omega Industries relies on the freight railroads being strong, thriving and expanding industry. Any changes to the current regulatory system could derail the ability of the railroad system from expanding. If the railroad system is not a strong then we lose business – something Omega Industries, cannot afford.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Isidoros Garifalakis
Vice-President/CEO